

CIA Aide Suspended; Took Papers Home

CPYRGHT

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WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Wednesday notified Hans V. Tofte that he has been suspended with pay pending completion of an investigation into his actions in taking CIA papers home.

Sen. Eugene McCarthy, D-Minn., one of the Senate's most outspoken critics of the CIA, yesterday asked that the Foreign Relations Committee do a "staff study" of the Tofte matter. He said he expected to bring the matter to the attention of the committee when staff study was completed.

TOFTE TOLD the Minneapolis Tribune he met with three high CIA officials and was notified later that he had been suspended.

The high-ranking, 55-year-old CIA official rejected the CIA contention that he had violated security by having the papers at his home in an "exposed" place.

He said the papers involving training programs for CIA recruits could not have been found "purely by chance" by Kenneth Slocum, a CIA official who came to his home with his wife June 23 for the stated purpose of buying or renting the property.

The papers were "in a package and under a blanket" in a study on the third floor of the home at 1667

35th St. NW., Tofte said. The rooms were accessible only from a narrow hall and stairway that passed the doorway of the second-floor living room where his mother-in-law, Mrs. Charlotte Leister, formerly of Anoka, remained.

THERE WAS no permission given for Mr. and Mrs. Slocum to go to the third floor, and no permission was asked. Mrs. Leister, 86, was unaware that either of the Slocums had gone to the third floor. She reported to Tofte and Mrs. Tofte that the Slocums and the real estate man who accompanied them were the only persons who came into the house on July 23.

Also, Mrs. Leister told the Toftes that the Slocums and a second man, since identified as a CIA security officer, entered the home on July 24 on the pretense of inspecting it. Again, there was no request for permission to go to the third floor, and Mrs. Leister said she was unaware that they had gone to the third floor until after Tofte had been notified by security officers at the CIA headquarters in Langley, Va.

The possibility of greater embarrassment for the CIA seemed in store. J. C. Chatel, of the J. C. Chatel Realty Co., said he was considering suing the CIA for illegal entry on false pretenses.